



[13846/10701]

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP ART UNIT 3733

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : LOMBARDO et al.  
Serial No. : 10/676,062  
Filed : October 1, 2003  
For : BONE PLATE ASSEMBLY PROVIDED WITH SCREW  
LOCKING MECHANISMS  
Examiner : James L. Swiger III  
Art Unit : 3733  
Confirmation No. : 7724

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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S I R:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

This paper is filed in response to the Final Office Action dated  
November 16, 2006 in connection with the above-captioned application. Applicants  
respectfully petition for a three month extension of time, and authorize payment of  
the required fee in the accompanying transmittal.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims,  
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.